

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111
Serial No. 10/801,711

REMARKS

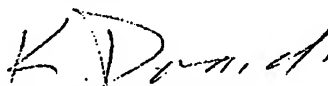
A total of 14 claims remain in the present application. The foregoing amendments are presented in response to the Examiner's comments during a telephone interview with Applicant's attorney on January 26, 2006.

By way of the above-noted amendments, independent claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 3, which has been cancelled to avoid redundancy. The dependency of claims 4 and 5 has been amended in view of the cancellation of claim 3. Clearly, no new subject matter has been introduced.

As an initial matter, Applicant appreciates the courtesies extended by the Examiner during the interview of January 26, 2006. In light of that discussion, independent claim 1 has now been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 3, as required by the Examiner during the interview of January 26, 2006. As the Examiner has verbally indicated that this amendment would place the claims into condition for allowance, early action in that respect is courteously solicited.

If any extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is required to obtain entry of this response, such extension is hereby respectfully requested. If there are any fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17 which are not enclosed herewith, including any fees required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, please charge such fees to our Deposit Account No. 19-5113.

Respectfully submitted,



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